

We claim:-

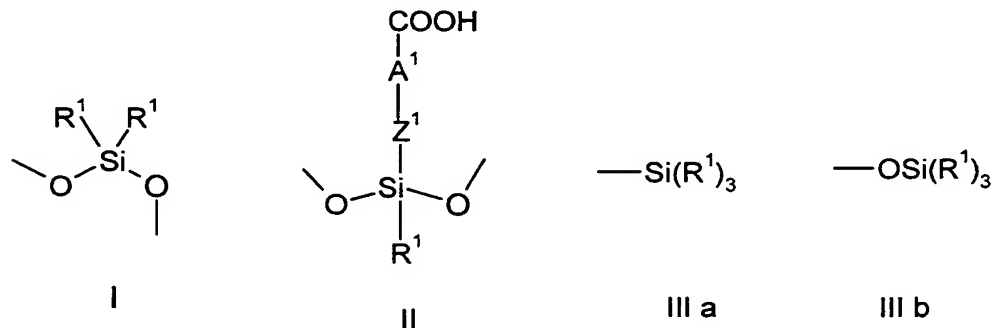
1. A process for imparting water repellency to leather and fur skins, wherein leather or fur skin is treated, before, during or after the retanning, with one or more formulations comprising from 1 to 30% by weight, based on the formulation, of a mixture of polysiloxanes comprising

from 10 to 90% by weight, based on the mixture, of one or more carboxyl-containing polysiloxanes,

from 90 to 10% by weight, based on the mixture, of one or more carboxyl-free polysiloxanes,

and from 3 to 25% by weight, based on the formulation, of at least one emulsifier.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the carboxyl-containing polysiloxanes are polysiloxanes which comprise structural elements of the formulae I, II and optionally III a and III b



where the variables are defined as follows:

$R^1$  are identical or different and, independently of one another, are hydrogen, hydroxyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ -aryl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, amino, mono- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino, di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino or  $Z^1$ - $A^1$ -COOH;

$A^1$  are identical or different and are linear or branched  $C_5$ - $C_{25}$ -alkylene and  $Z^1$  is a direct bond, oxygen or an amino, carbonyl, amido or ester group.

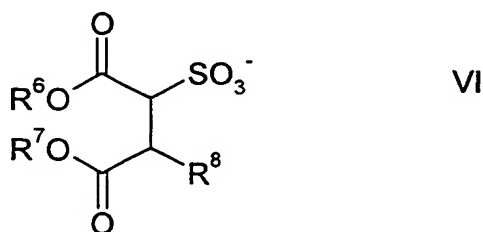
3. A process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the formulation comprises from 10 to 70% by weight, based on the formulation, of at least one further hydrophobic compound.
4. A process according to any of the preceding claims, wherein at least one

emulsifier is an N-acylated amino acid.

5. A process according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein at least one emulsifier is a sulfur-containing emulsifier.

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6. A process according to claim 5, wherein at least one sulfur-containing emulsifier comprises one or more compounds of the general formula VI



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where the variables are defined as follows

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  are identical or different and are selected from hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_{30}$ -alkyl and  $C_6$ - $C_{14}$ -aryl,

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$R^8$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl or hydrogen.

7. A process according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the further hydrophobic compound is a combination of at least one natural triglyceride solid or liquid at room temperature and a paraffin mixture.

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8. A process according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the treatment is carried out at a pH of from 4 to 9.

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9. A process according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the treatment is carried out at from 20 to 65°C.

10. A leather produced by a process according to any of claims 1 to 9.

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11. The use of a leather according to claim 10 for the production of articles of clothing, pieces of furniture or automotive parts.

12. A fur skin produced according to any of claims 1 to 9.

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13. A formulation comprising

from 1 to 20% by weight, based on the formulation, of a mixture of polysiloxanes comprising

5 from 10 to 90% by weight, based on the mixture, of one or more carboxyl-containing polysiloxanes,  
from 90 to 10% by weight, based on the mixture, of one or more carboxyl-free polysiloxanes,

10 and from 3 to 25% by weight, based on the formulation, of at least one emulsifier.

14. A formulation according to claim 12, wherein the carboxyl-containing polysiloxanes are polysiloxanes which comprise structural elements of the formulae I, II and optionally III a and III b.

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15. A formulation according to claim 13 or 14, which comprises from 10 to 70% by weight, based on the formulation, of at least one further hydrophobic compound.

20 16. A formulation according to any of claims 13 to 15, wherein further hydrophobic compounds are a combination of at least one natural triglyceride solid or liquid at room temperature and a paraffin mixture.

25 17. A process for the preparation of a formulation according to any of claims 13 to 16 by mixing the components carboxyl-free polysiloxane, carboxyl-containing polysiloxane and one or more emulsifiers.